

CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET~~COUNTRY East Germany REPORTTOPIC Military Installations and Movements of the 9th Mech DivEVALUATION  PLACE OBTAINED  25XDATE OF CONTENT  638564 25XDATE OBTAINED  DATE PREPARED 30 July 1954 25X1REFERENCES PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) REMARKS This is UNEVALUATED

1. Between 3 and 16 July 1954, the barracks installation north of Drachhausen was still occupied to capacity by soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia. A total of not more than 40 T-34 tanks and 6 JS-3 tanks was observed. Tank units of 5 JS-3 tanks and up to 20 T-34 tanks engaged repeatedly in firing practices in the training area north of the installation. The unit advanced westward from positions west of the Peitz-Liebersow road, with the tanks driving 50 meters apart and the distance between the individual lines being 50 to 100 meters. The tanks fired with guns and machine guns at dummy houses and dummy tanks. After a 1-kilometer drive, the tanks returned to their positions. On 16 July, 6 rocket launchers individually fired northwest from positions about 200 meters northwest of Tauer. About 20 motor vehicles were seen nearby.

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Ration supply trucks which went to the training area from the direction of Peitz

Five trucks with ammunition  went in the same direction.

25X

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2. At 1500 on 10 July, a rail shipment of T-34/85 tanks  and 1 radio truck left the Zeitz railroad station. At 1500, about 60 trucks with pontoons and engineer equipment and about 500 soldiers were entrained, allegedly for the high-water area.

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3. The Dissenchen Kaserne (3081) in Cottbus had been occupied by about 200 soldiers since early July 1954. Only a few windows of the barracks were lit at dusk. Prior to 16 July, the occupation of Loos Kaserne (3083) decreased to about 250 soldiers working and

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-bordered black epaulets, including some with tank insignia. Driving school practices of not more than 4 tanks [redacted] were continually observed. Numerous officers' families were quartered in the installation. Between 2 and 16 July, the Sachsenhof Kaserne was occupied by about 250 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets which furnished guard personnel for the Kommandatur and the ration supply depot near the railroad station. The Alvensleben Kaserne was occupied by only a guard detail of about 30 soldiers.

4. In early July, the Neue Kaserne in Wuerzburg, south of Stammlager Kossen was occupied as previously by about 1,500 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank and artillery insignia. The sheds were occupied as previously by 15 US 3 tanks. Units of about 50 soldiers practiced with 2 light mortars and 2 x 27-mm AT guns in the training area. Motor vehicles [redacted] were seen.

[redacted] Comment. The bulk of the 9th Mech Div including the engineer battalion was still located in Camp Forst Tauer until mid-July. The occupation of the camp included the 71st Mech Regt, which previously remained in the Disenchen Kaserne in Cottbus. The following units are still stationed in the installations indicated: the 30th Gds Hvy Tank SP Regt in the barracks installation north of Drachhausen, the 70th Mech Regt in Neue Kaserne in Wuerzburg, and the unidentified tank training battalion in Loene Kaserne in Cottbus. Units of the division went to Juetzbog for short-term exercises in mid-July. (3 shipments to, and 2 shipments from, the training area). Information in paragraph 2 indicates that tank firing details were transferred.

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